

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/772,333

Examiner

Bryan R. Muller

Applicant(s)

PEDERSEN ET AL.

Art Unit

3723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments filed 6/9/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-9 and 11-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 June 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/6/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Guy Houle on 8/9/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 1 has been amended, from applicants amended version submitted on 6/09/2005, to read as follows:
 1. (currently amended) A casted concrete block surface roughing machine comprising a plurality of abrading devices an in-line conveyor displaceable over a stationary horizontal support surface for slidingly supporting a lower face of concrete blocks displaced thereon by said conveyor, said in-line conveyor having at least two pairs of spaced apart vertically supported narrow conveyor belts disposed to simultaneously engage opposed side faces of said concrete blocks to displace them along said stationary horizontal support surface, said conveyor belts being pressure-biased against said opposed side faces, one of said pairs of conveyor belts engaging said opposed side faces in a lower surface section thereof to expose an upper surface section thereof to be abraded

by respective first and second surface abrading devices, the other of said pairs of conveyor belts engaging said same opposed side faces in said upper surface section thereof to expose a lower surface section thereof to be abraded by further respective third and fourth surface abrading devices, a ~~top-surface~~ fifth abrading device along said in-line conveyor for abrading a top surface of said concrete blocks conveyed thereunder by said vertically supported conveyor belts, and ~~opposed upper side edge~~ sixth and seventh abrading devices for abrading a top side edge of opposed side faces of said concrete blocks conveyed thereby by said one of said pairs of conveyor belts.

- Claim 4 has been amended, from applicants amended version submitted on 6/09/2005, to read as follows:

4. (currently amended) A casted concrete block surface roughing machine as claimed in claim 1 wherein there is also provided along said in-line conveyor ~~opposed lower side edge~~ eight and ninth abrading devices for abrading a lower side edge of opposed side faces of said concrete blocks conveyed thereby by said other of said pairs of conveyor belts.

- Claim 14 has been amended, from applicants amended version submitted on 6/09/2005, to read as follows:

14. (currently amended) A casted concrete block surface roughing machine as claimed in claim 5 wherein there is still further provided a ~~bottom surface~~ tenth abrading device supported under said stationary horizontal support surface in an opening thereof whereby to expose a section of a bottom surface of said concrete block as it is conveyed over said opening to be abraded by said ~~bottom surface~~ tenth abrading device.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The art of record (considered as a whole) neither anticipates nor renders obvious a casted concrete block surface roughing machine with a plurality of abrading devices to respectively abrade each of opposed upper side surfaces, opposed lower side surfaces, a top surface and opposed upper side edge portions of the block in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations set forth in the independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryan R. Muller whose telephone number is (571) 272-4489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday and second Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J. Hail III can be reached on (571) 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Joseph J. Hail, III
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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BRM BRM
8/9/2005